Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 126
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SEGA
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
"TOSSED IN SPACE" BEGINS HERE!
FEATURING THE RETURN OF SUPER SONIC!
PLUS:
BEHIND THE SCENES MAYHEM IN AN EXTENDED "OFF-PANEL" BACK-UP!

When the alien Xorda threatened all life on planet Mobius, Sonic the Hedgehog was forced to team up with his worst enemy, Doctor Robotnik! Though successful, they could not prevent the activation of the Quantum Dial, a weapon capable of wiping out the entire Mobian solar system. Only Sonic possessed the power to destroy the Dial, and although it was believed that the effort would cost him his life, he acted anyway, making a heroic sacrifice.

Now, his loved ones believe him dead, but in reality, Sonic has been propelled to a far and distant galaxy!

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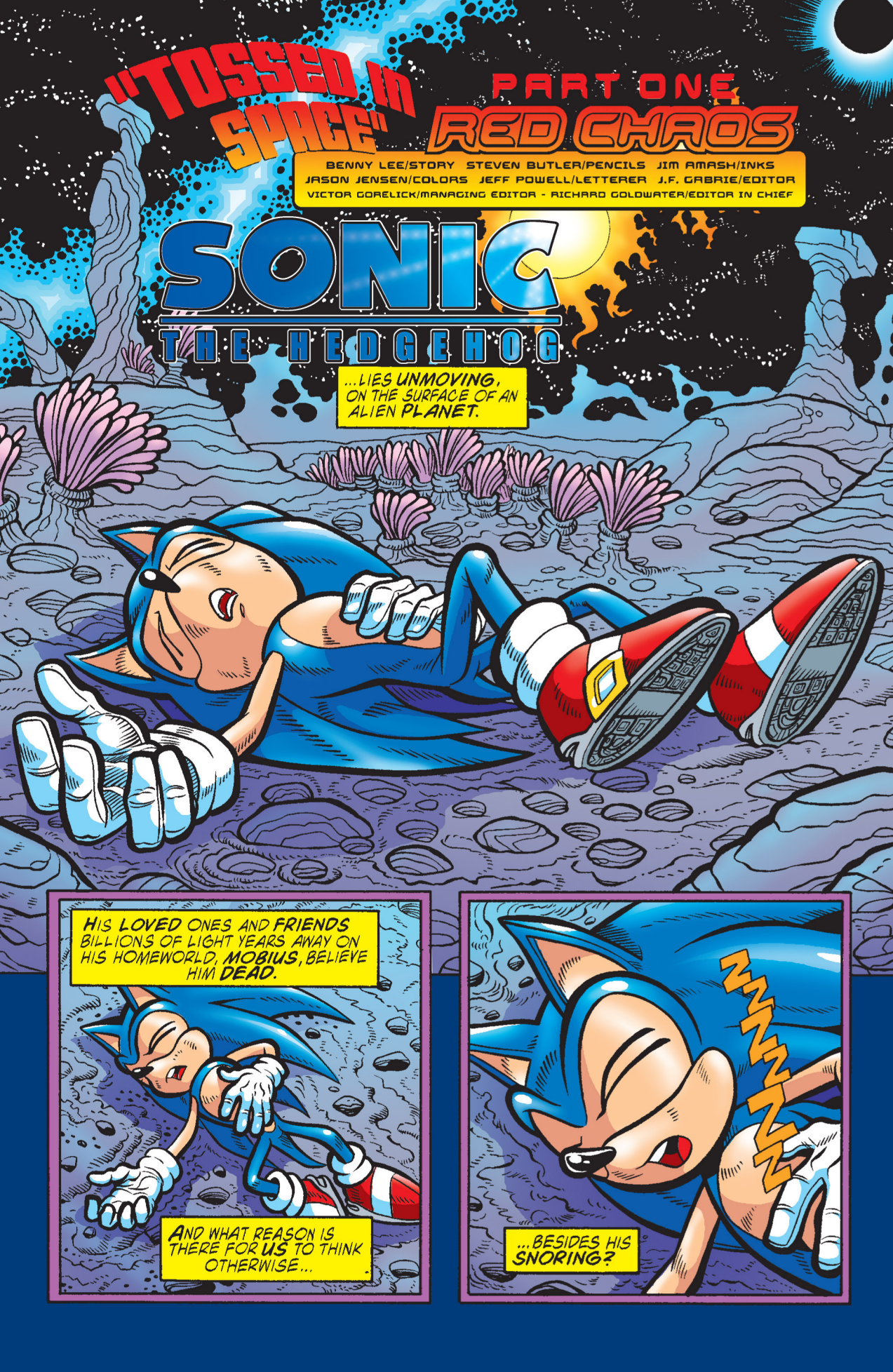
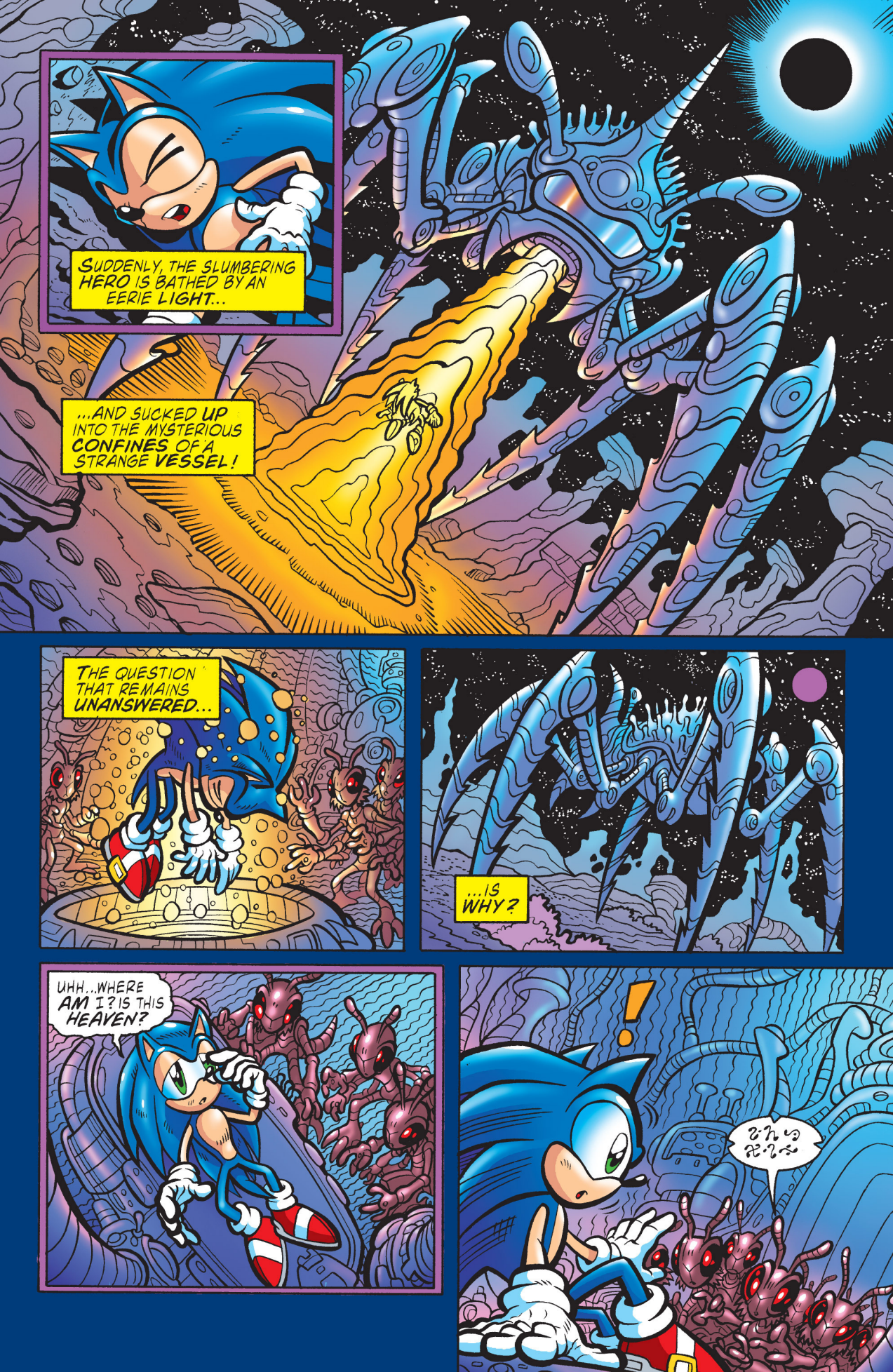
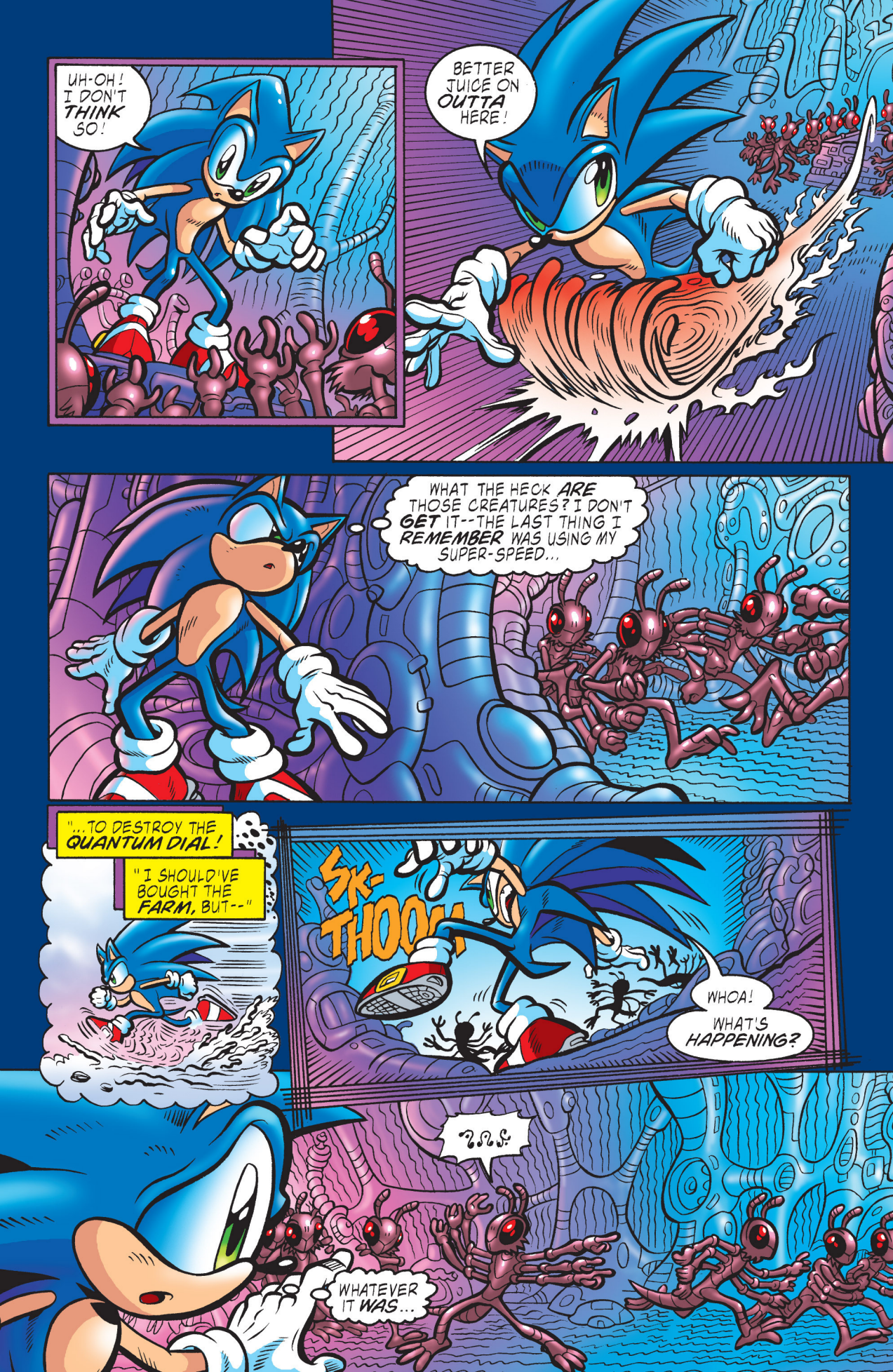
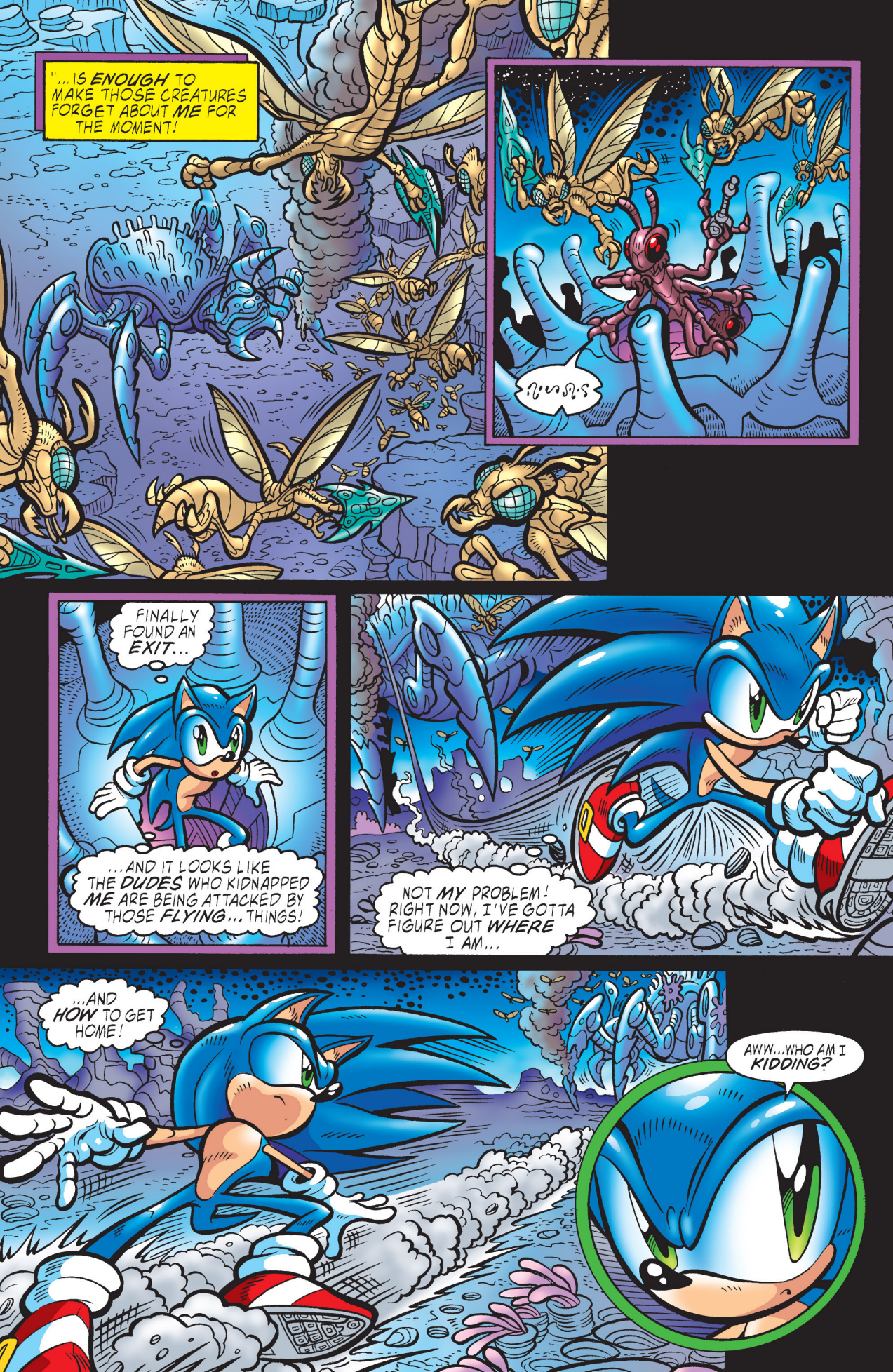
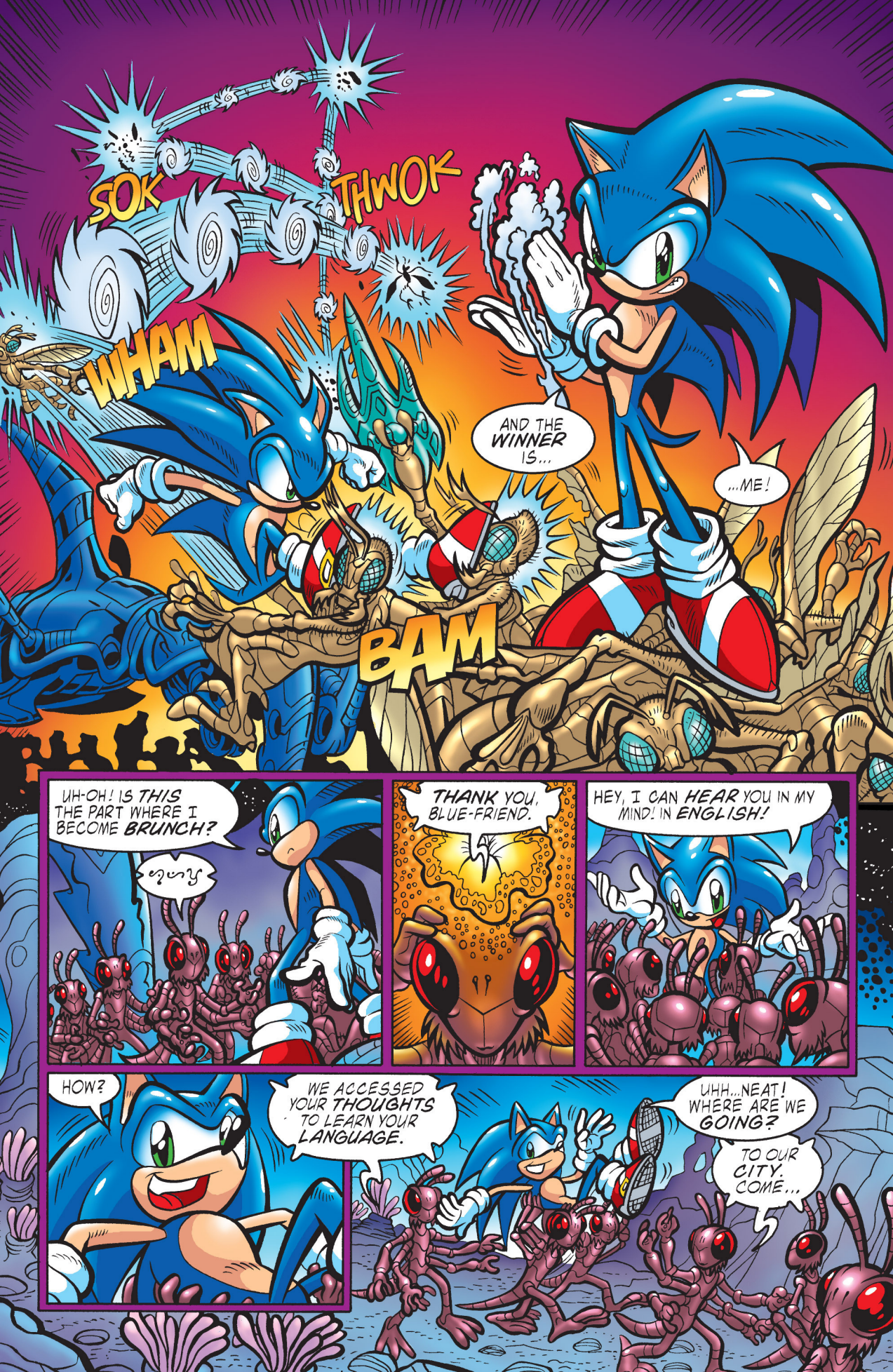
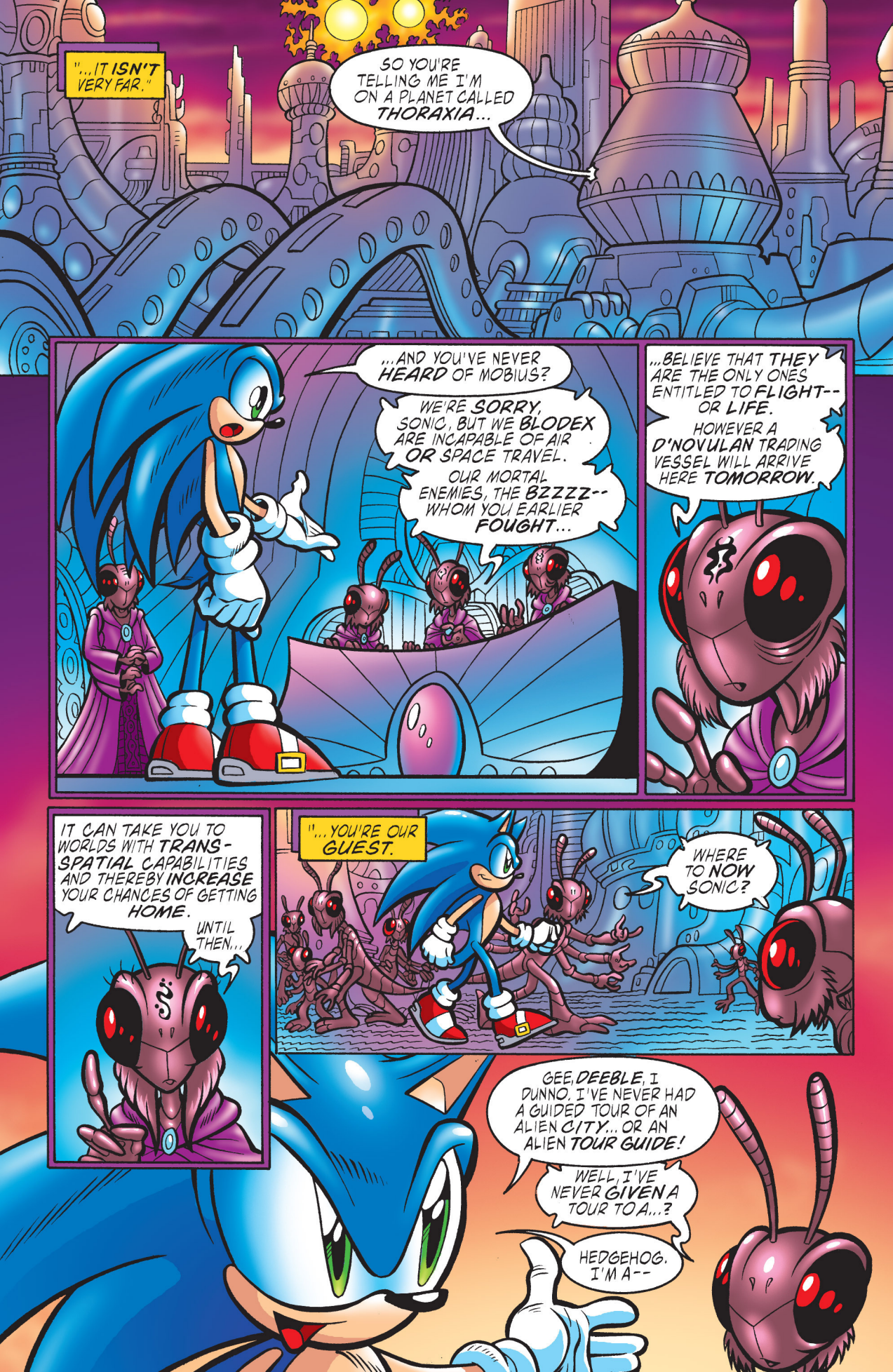

"TOSSED IN SPACE"
PART ONE
RED CHAOS
BENNY LEE/STORY STEVEN BUTLER/PENCILS JIM AMASH/INKS
JASON JENSEN/COLORS JEFF POWELL/LETTERER J.F. GABRIE/EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK/MANAGING EDITOR - RICHARD GOLDWATER/EDITOR IN CHIEF
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
...LIES UNMOVING, ON THE SURFACE OF AN ALIEN PLANET.
HIS LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS BILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS AWAY ON HIS HOMEWORLD, MOBIUS, BELIEVE HIM DEAD.
AND WHAT REASON IS THERE FOR US TO THINK OTHERWISE...
ZZZZZZZ
...BESIDES HIS SNORING?

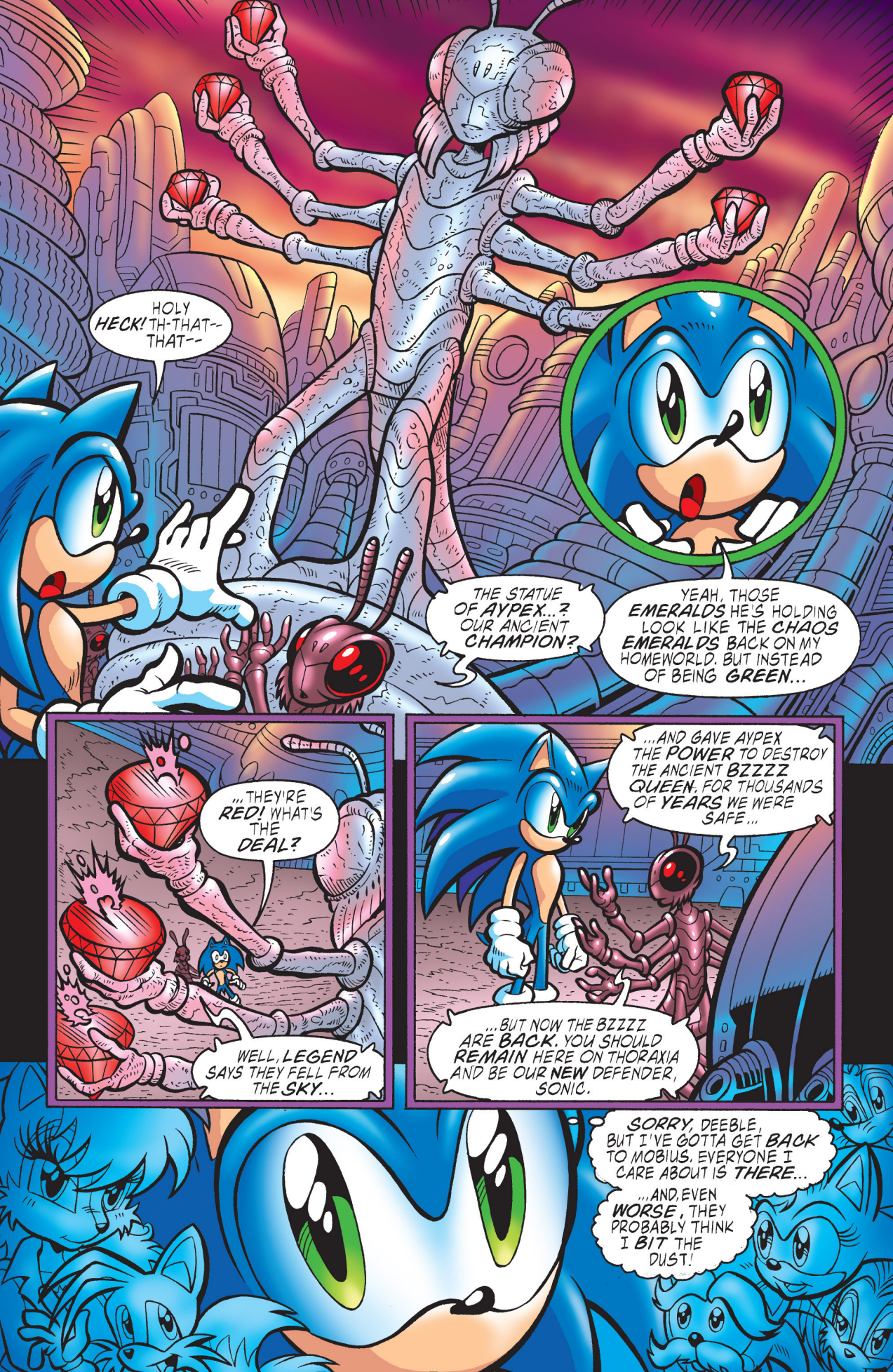

SUDDENLY, THE SLUMBERING HERO IS BATHED BY AN EERIE LIGHT...
...AND SUCKED UP INTO THE MYSTERIOUS CONFINES OF A STRANGE VESSEL!
THE QUESTION THAT REMAINS UNANSWERED...
...IS WHY?
UHH...WHERE AM I? IS THIS HEAVEN?
!
ぺっぺっぺっ

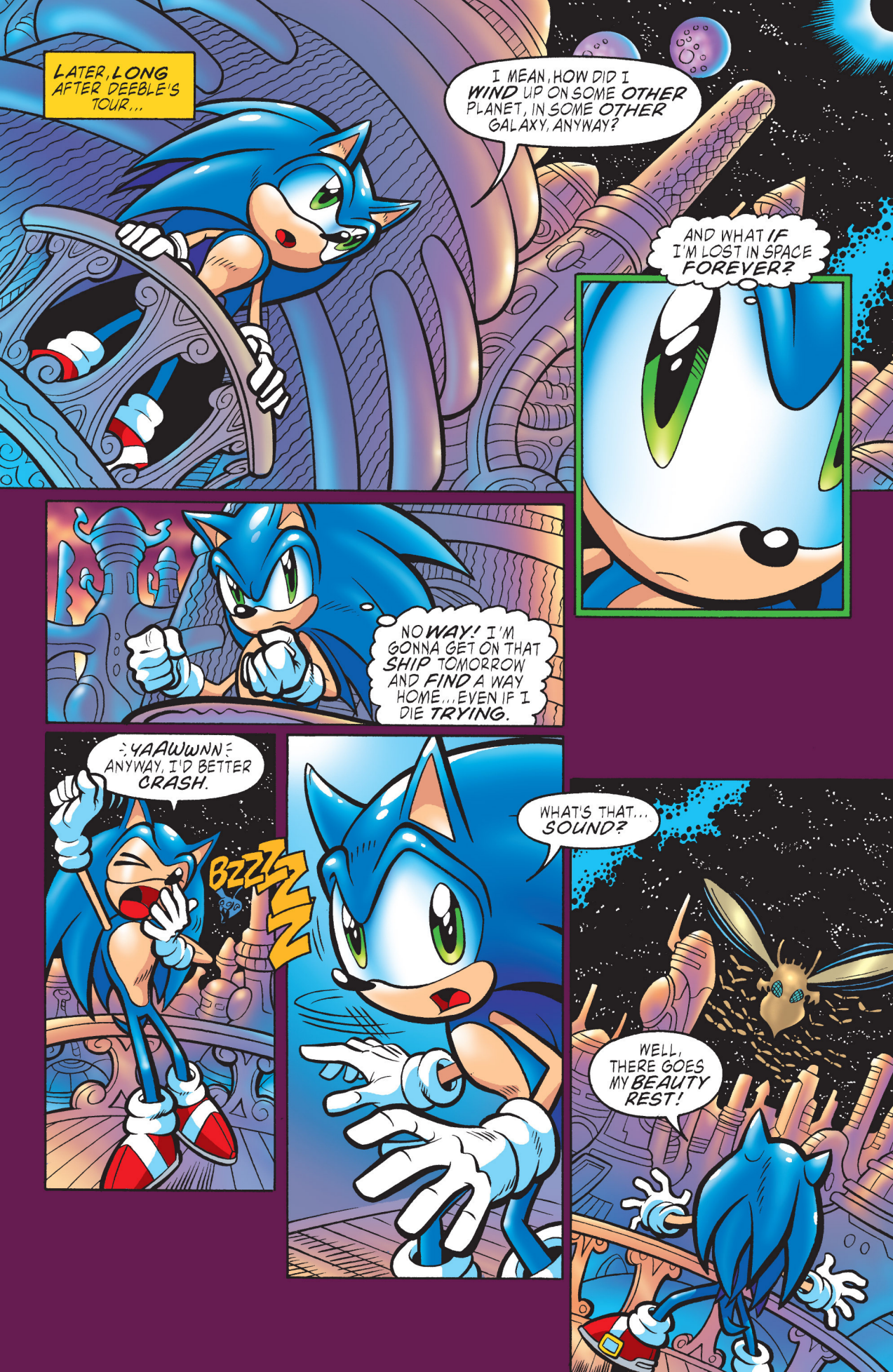

UH-OH! I DON'T THINK SO!
BETTER JUICE ON OUTTA HERE!
WHAT THE HECK ARE THOSE CREATURES? I DON'T GET IT--THE LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS USING MY SUPER-SPEED...
"...TO DESTROY THE QUANTUM DIAL!
"I SHOULD'VE BOUGHT THE FARM, BUT--"
SK-THOOM
WHOA! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
?!?!?
WHATEVER IT WAS...

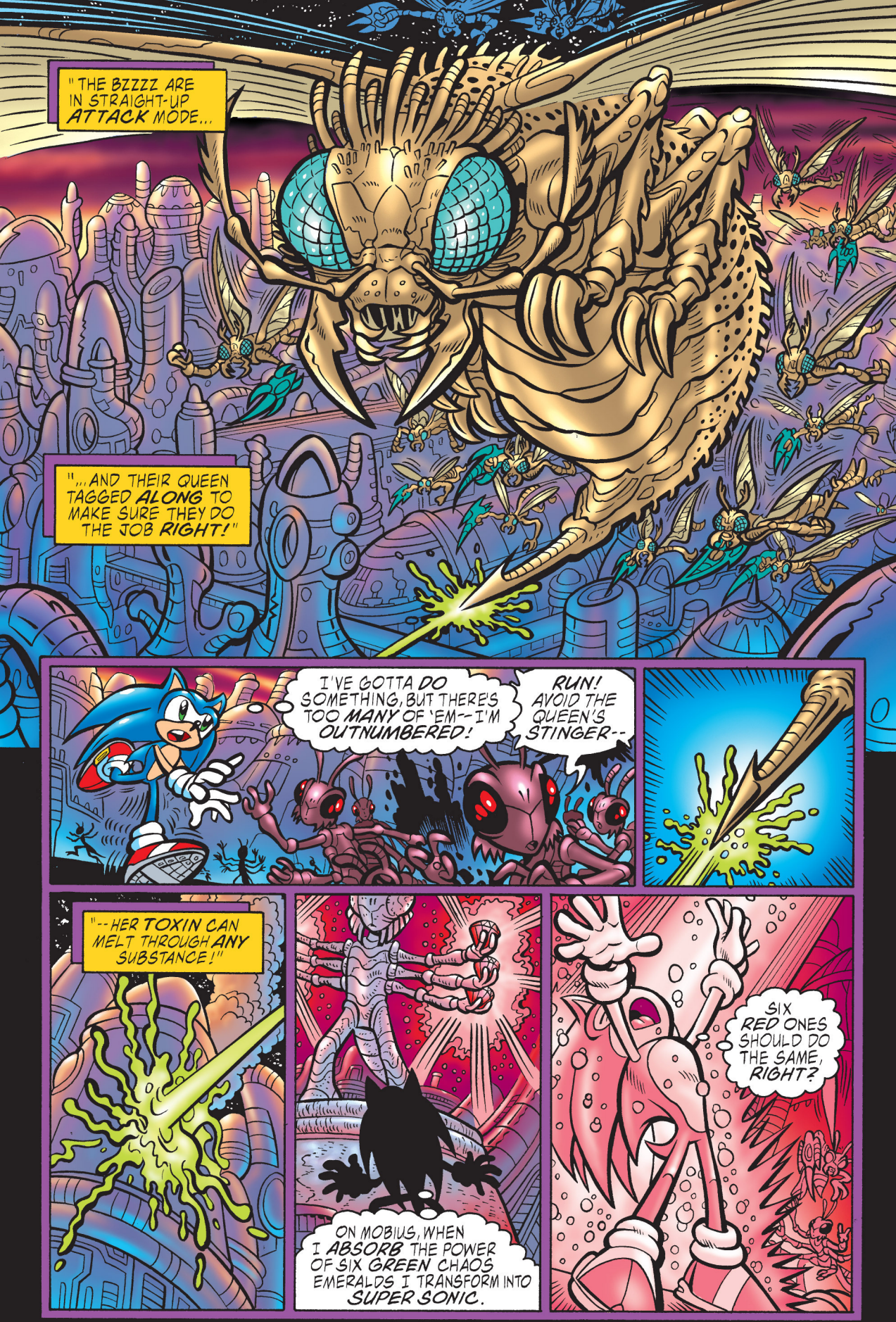

"...IS ENOUGH TO MAKE THOSE CREATURES FORGET ABOUT ME FOR THE MOMENT!
SURROUND!
FINALLY FOUND AN EXIT...
...AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE DUDES WHO KIDNAPPED ME ARE BEING ATTACKED BY THOSE FLYING... THINGS!
NOT MY PROBLEM! RIGHT NOW, I'VE GOTTA FIGURE OUT WHERE I AM...
...AND HOW TO GET HOME!
AWW...WHO AM I KIDDING?

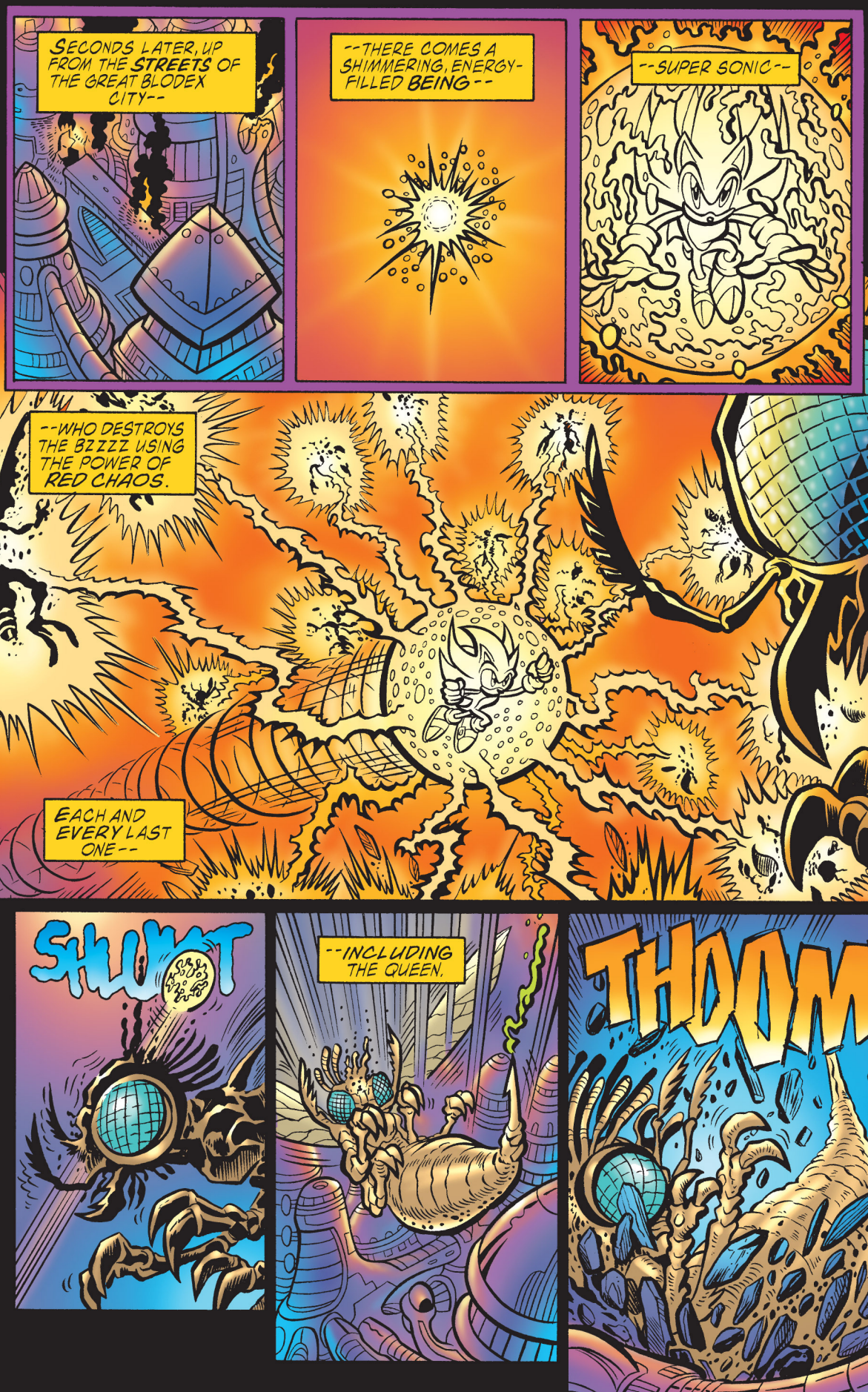

SOK
THWOK
WHAM
AND THE WINNER IS...
...ME!
BAM
UH-OH! IS THIS THE PART WHERE I BECOME BRUNCH?
eury
THANK YOU, BLUE-FRIEND.
HEY, I CAN HEAR YOU IN MY MIND! IN ENGLISH!
HOW?
WE ACCESSED YOUR THOUGHTS TO LEARN YOUR LANGUAGE.
UHH...NEAT! WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO OUR CITY. COME...


"...IT ISN'T VERY FAR."
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME I'M ON A PLANET CALLED THORAXIA...
...AND YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF MOBIUS?
WE'RE SORRY, SONIC, BUT WE BLODEX ARE INCAPABLE OF AIR OR SPACE TRAVEL.
OUR MORTAL ENEMIES, THE BZZZZ-- WHOM YOU EARLIER FOUGHT...
...BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES ENTITLED TO FLIGHT-- OR LIFE.
HOWEVER A D'NOVULAN TRADING VESSEL WILL ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW.
IT CAN TAKE YOU TO WORLDS WITH TRANS-SPATIAL CAPABILITIES AND THEREBY INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING HOME.
UNTIL THEN...
"...YOU'RE OUR GUEST.
WHERE TO NOW SONIC?
GEE, DEEBLE, I DUNNO. I'VE NEVER HAD A GUIDED TOUR OF AN ALIEN CITY... OR AN ALIEN TOUR GUIDE!
WELL, I'VE NEVER GIVEN A TOUR TO A...?
HEDGEHOG. I'M A--


HOLY HECK! TH-THAT-- THAT--
THE STATUE OF AYPEX...? OUR ANCIENT CHAMPION?
YEAH, THOSE EMERALDS HE'S HOLDING LOOK LIKE THE CHAOS EMERALDS BACK ON MY HOMEWORLD. BUT INSTEAD OF BEING GREEN...
...THEY'RE RED! WHAT'S THE DEAL?
WELL, LEGEND SAYS THEY FELL FROM THE SKY...
...AND GAVE AYPEX THE POWER TO DESTROY THE ANCIENT BZZZZ QUEEN. FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS WE WERE SAFE...
...BUT NOW THE BZZZZ ARE BACK. YOU SHOULD REMAIN HERE ON THORAXIA AND BE OUR NEW DEFENDER, SONIC.
SORRY, DEEBLE, BUT I'VE GOTTA GET BACK TO MOBIUS. EVERYONE I CARE ABOUT IS THERE...
...AND, EVEN WORSE, THEY PROBABLY THINK I BIT THE DUST!

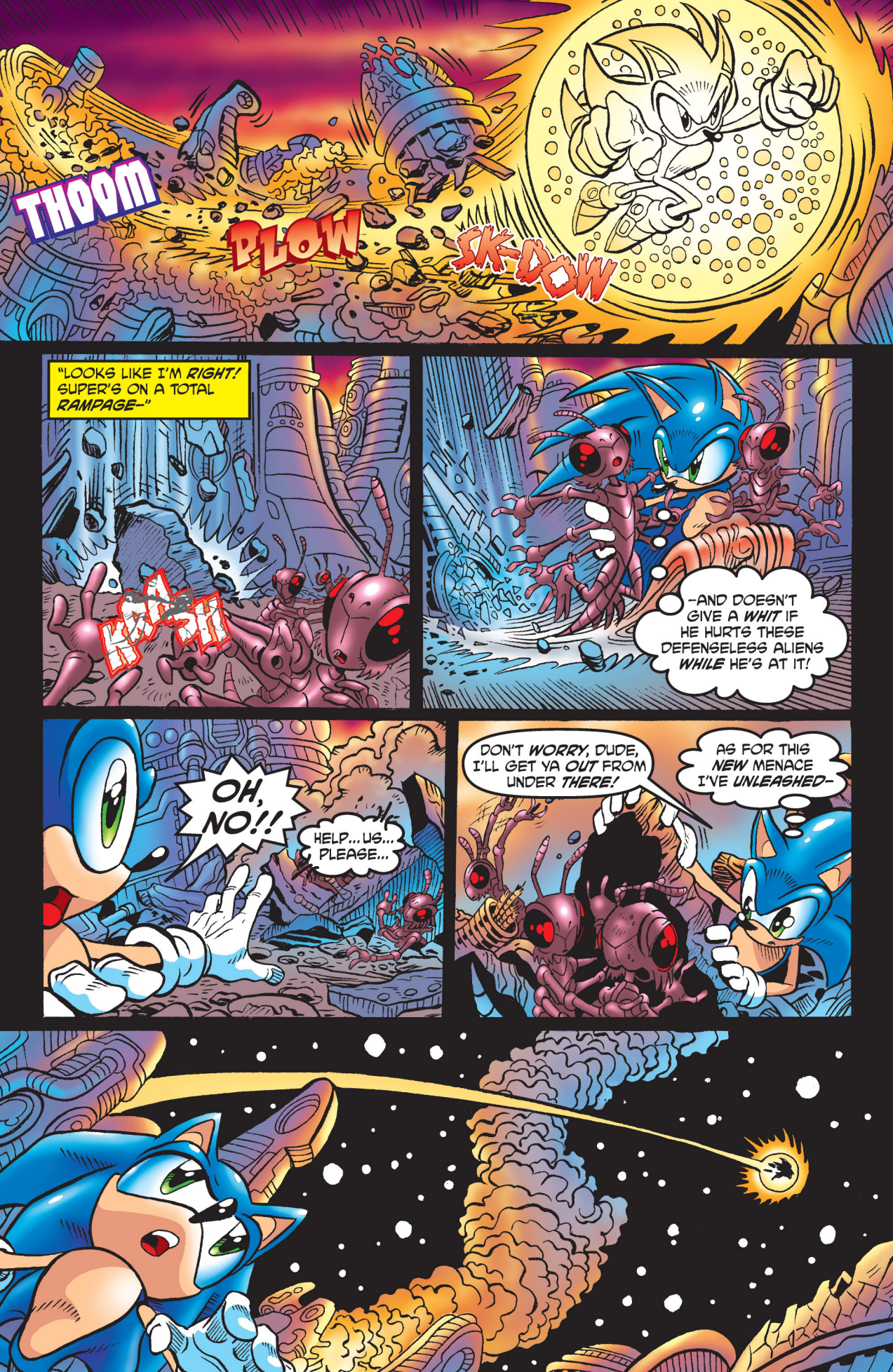

LATER, LONG AFTER DEEBLE'S TOUR...
I MEAN, HOW DID I WIND UP ON SOME OTHER PLANET, IN SOME OTHER GALAXY, ANYWAY?
AND WHAT IF I'M LOST IN SPACE FOREVER?
NO WAY! I'M GONNA GET ON THAT SHIP TOMORROW AND FIND A WAY HOME... EVEN IF I DIE TRYING.
:YAAWWNN: ANYWAY, I'D BETTER CRASH.
BZZZZZ
WHAT'S THAT... SOUND?
WELL, THERE GOES MY BEAUTY REST!


"THE BZZZZ ARE IN STRAIGHT-UP ATTACK MODE...
"...AND THEIR QUEEN TAGGED ALONG TO MAKE SURE THEY DO THE JOB RIGHT!"
I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING, BUT THERE'S TOO MANY OF 'EM--I'M OUTNUMBERED!
RUN! AVOID THE QUEEN'S STINGER--
"--HER TOXIN CAN MELT THROUGH ANY SUBSTANCE!"
ON MOBIUS, WHEN I ABSORB THE POWER OF SIX GREEN CHAOS EMERALDS I TRANSFORM INTO SUPER SONIC.
SIX RED ONES SHOULD DO THE SAME, RIGHT?

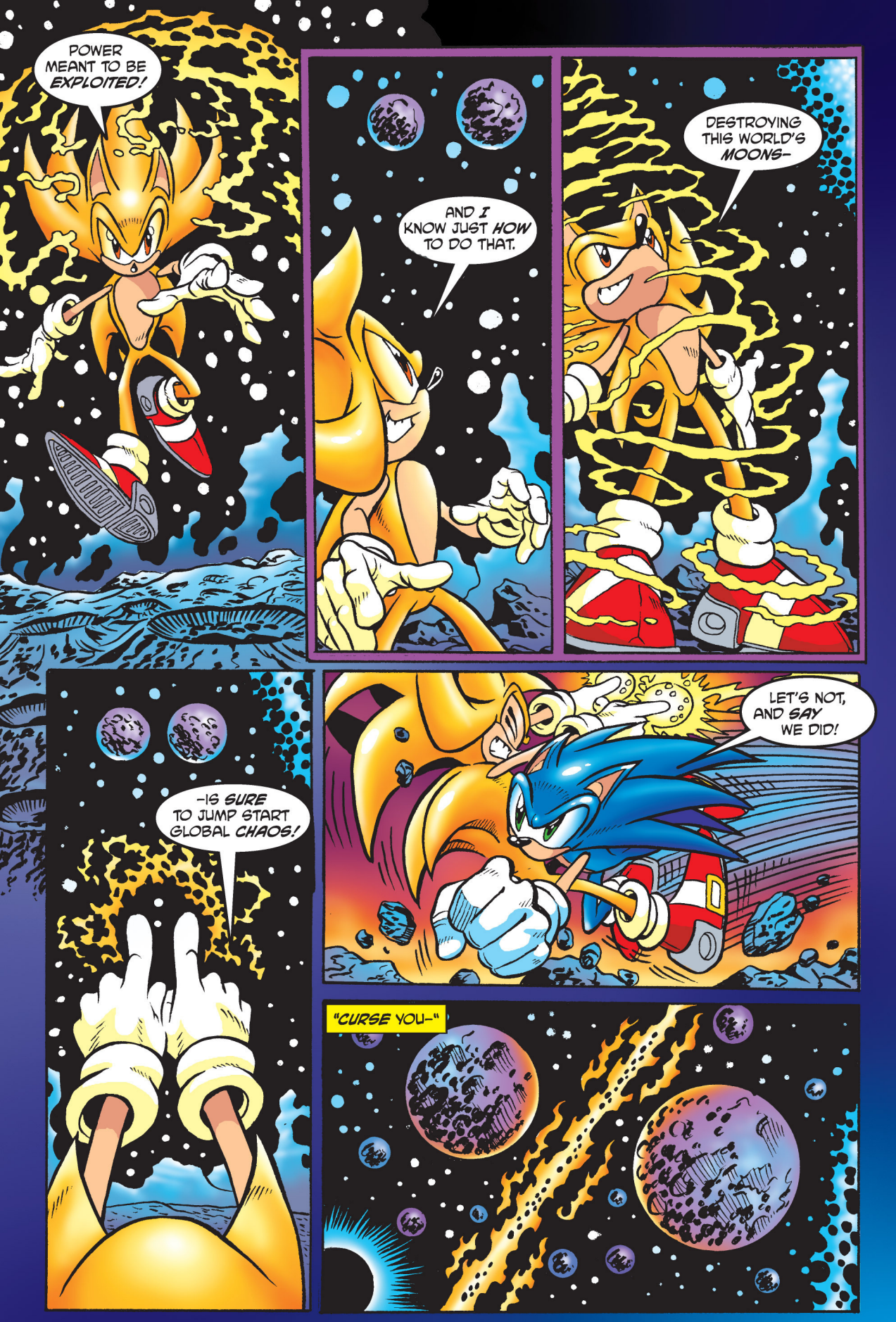

SECONDS LATER, UP FROM THE STREETS OF THE GREAT BLODEX CITY--
--THERE COMES A SHIMMERING, ENERGY-FILLED BEING--
--SUPER SONIC--
--WHO DESTROYS THE BZZZZ USING THE POWER OF RED CHAOS.
EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE--
SHUNT
--INCLUDING THE QUEEN.
THOOM

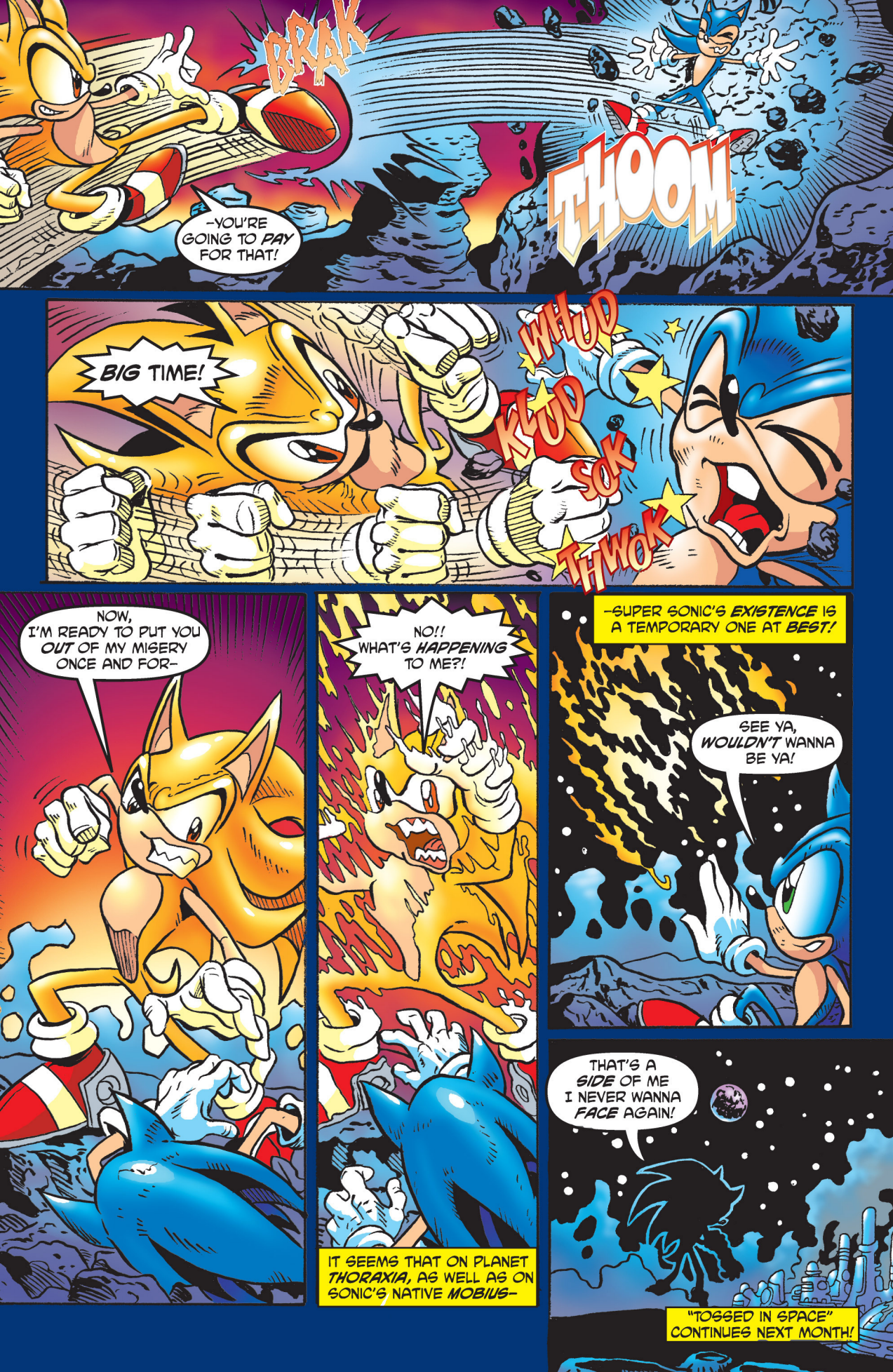
BOY...
...I SURE WASN'T EXPECTING THAT TO HAPPEN!
End of Part 1

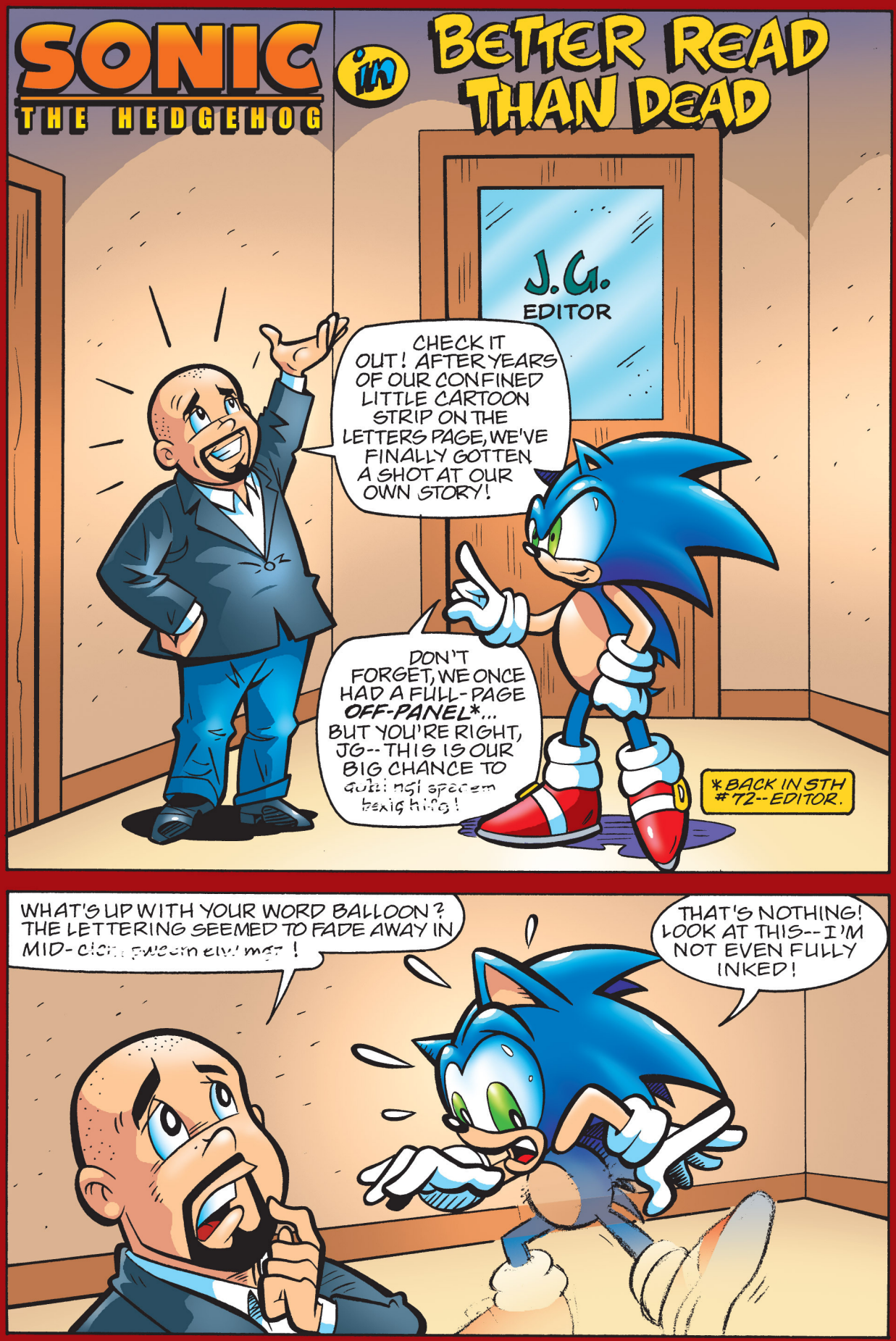
Tossed IN Space
PART 2: HOG & SUPERHOG
KARL BOLLERS - WORDS • STEVEN BUTLER - PICTURES
J & A. RAY - INKS & LETTERS • JASON JENSEN - COLORS
J.F. GABRIE - EDITS
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
NOW LET ME JUST TRY AND WRAP MY HEDGEHOG BRAIN AROUND THIS ONE–
–INSTEAD OF TRANSFORMING ME INTO SUPER SONIC THE WAY SIX GREEN CHAOS EMERALDS DO–
–THE SIX RED ONES WHOSE ENERGY I ABSORBED HAVE MANIFESTED HIM AS A SEPARATE BEING!
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD.

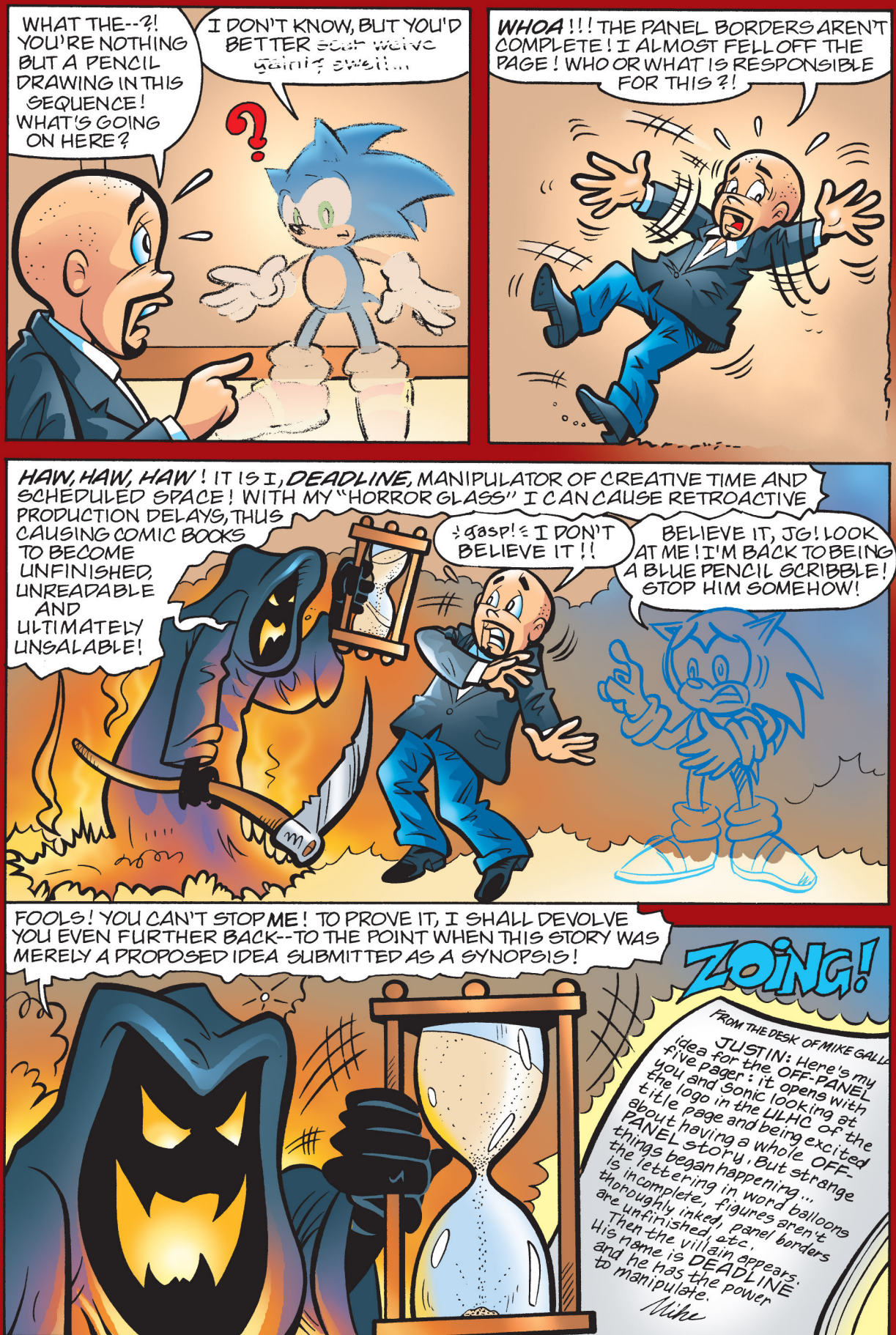

THOOM
PLOW
SK-DOW
"LOOKS LIKE I'M RIGHT! SUPER'S ON A TOTAL RAMPAGE–"
KRSH
–AND DOESN'T GIVE A WHIT IF HE HURTS THESE DEFENSELESS ALIENS WHILE HE'S AT IT!
OH, NO!!
HELP... US... PLEASE...
DON'T WORRY, DUDE, I'LL GET YA OUT FROM UNDER THERE!
AS FOR THIS NEW MENACE I'VE UNLEASHED–

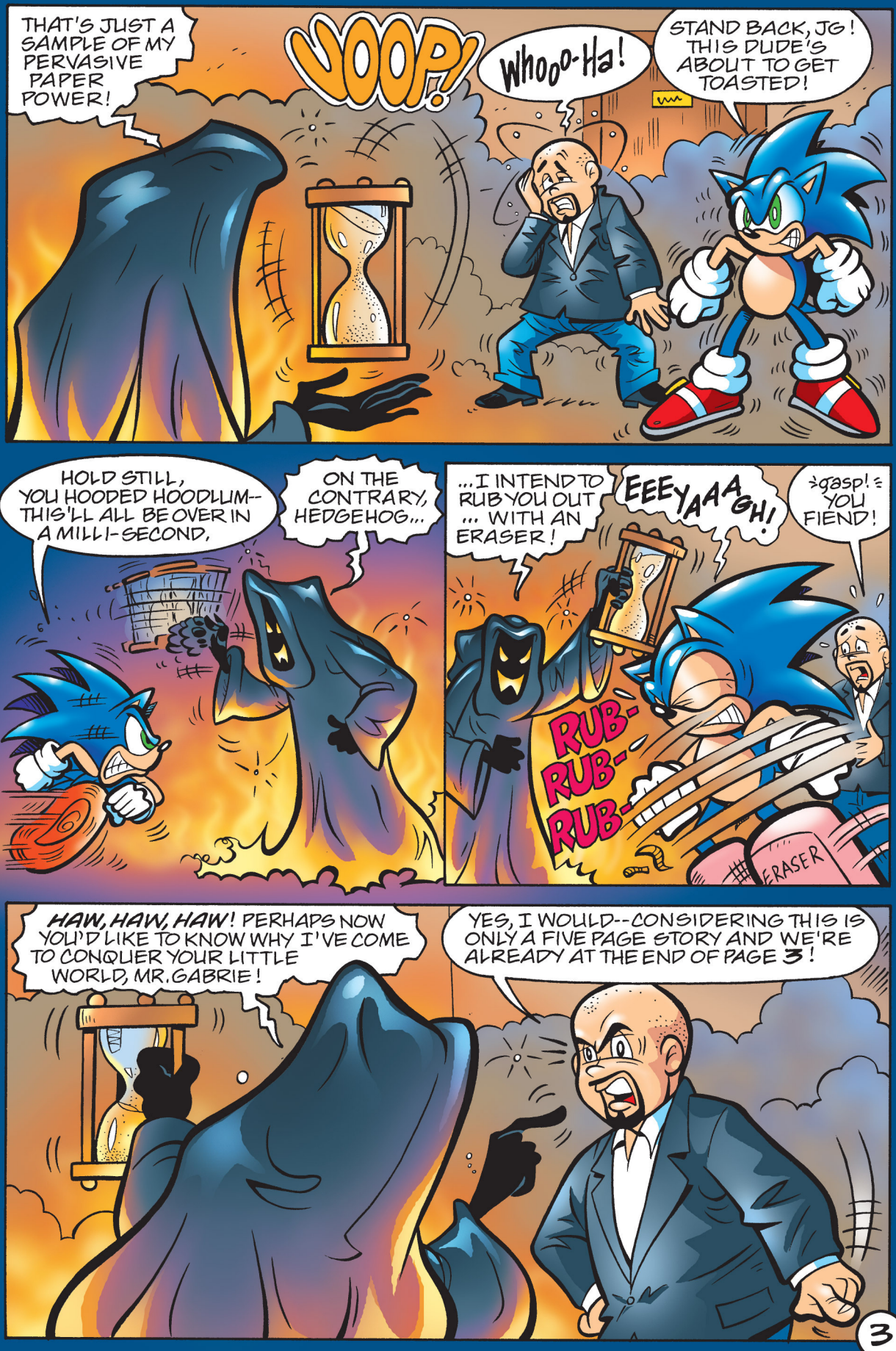
MINUTES LATER, MILES FROM THE ALIEN CITY...
FWOOOM
YO- STUPID SONIC!
WHAT'S YOUR BEEF? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
GOOD? GOOD?!
FOOL. THERE IS NO GOOD. THERE IS NO EVIL.
THERE IS ONLY POWER.
YOW!
WHAT A GROUCH.
SHAZAM


POWER MEANT TO BE EXPLOITED!
AND I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO THAT.
DESTROYING THIS WORLD'S MOONS–
–IS SURE TO JUMP START GLOBAL CHAOS!
LET'S NOT, AND SAY WE DID!
"CURSE YOU–"

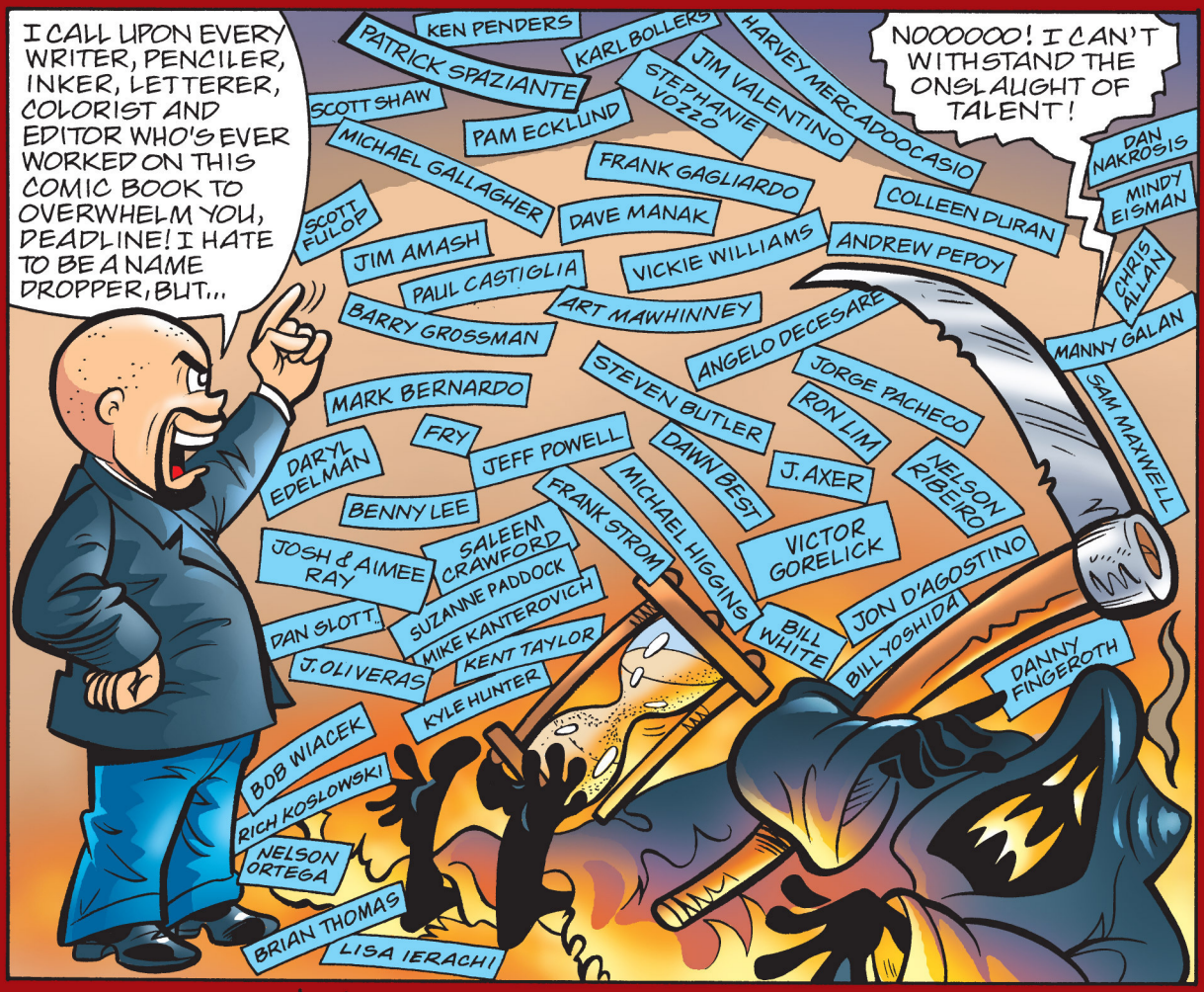

BRAK
–YOU'RE GOING TO *PAY* FOR THAT!
THOOM
BIG TIME!
WHUP
KLUP
SOK
THWOK
NOW, I'M READY TO PUT YOU *OUT* OF MY MISERY ONCE AND FOR–
NO!! WHAT'S *HAPPENING* TO ME?!
IT SEEMS THAT ON PLANET *THORAXIA*, AS WELL AS ON SONIC'S NATIVE *MOBIUS*–
–SUPER SONIC'S *EXISTENCE* IS A TEMPORARY ONE AT *BEST!*
SEE YA, *WOULDN'T* WANNA BE YA!
THAT'S A *SIDE* OF ME I NEVER WANNA *FACE* AGAIN!
"TOSSED IN SPACE" CONTINUES NEXT MONTH!

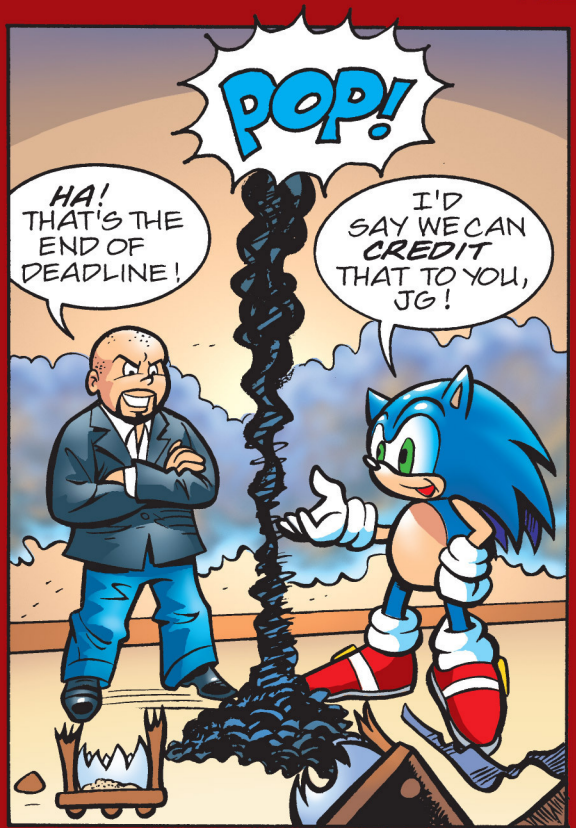

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
in
BETTER READ THAN DEAD
J.G. EDITOR
CHECK IT OUT! AFTER YEARS OF OUR CONFINED LITTLE CARTOON STRIP ON THE LETTERS PAGE, WE'VE FINALLY GOTTEN A SHOT AT OUR OWN STORY!
DON'T FORGET, WE ONCE HAD A FULL-PAGE OFF-PANEL*... BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, JG--THIS IS OUR BIG CHANCE TO
*BACK IN STH #72--EDITOR.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR WORD BALLOON? THE LETTERING SEEMED TO FADE AWAY IN MID-
!
THAT'S NOTHING! LOOK AT THIS--I'M NOT EVEN FULLY INKED!


WHAT THE--?! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A PENCIL DRAWING IN THIS SEQUENCE! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT YOU'D BETTER ~~start weave~~ gain? swell...
?
WHOA!!! THE PANEL BORDERS AREN'T COMPLETE! I ALMOST FELL OFF THE PAGE! WHO OR WHAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?!
HAW, HAW, HAW! IT IS I, DEADLINE, MANIPULATOR OF CREATIVE TIME AND SCHEDULED SPACE! WITH MY "HORROR GLASS" I CAN CAUSE RETROACTIVE PRODUCTION DELAYS, THUS CAUSING COMIC BOOKS TO BECOME UNFINISHED, UNREADABLE AND ULTIMATELY UNSALABLE!
GASP! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!
BELIEVE IT, JG! LOOK AT ME! I'M BACK TO BEING A BLUE PENCIL SCRIBBLE! STOP HIM SOMEHOW!
FOOLS! YOU CAN'T STOP ME! TO PROVE IT, I SHALL DEVOLVE YOU EVEN FURTHER BACK--TO THE POINT WHEN THIS STORY WAS MERELY A PROPOSED IDEA SUBMITTED AS A SYNOPSIS!
ZOING!
FROM THE DESK OF MIKE GALL
JUSTIN: Here's my idea for the OFF-PANEL five pager: it opens with you and Sonic looking at the logo in the ULHC of the title page and being excited about having a whole OFF-PANEL story. But strange things began happening... the lettering in word balloons is incomplete, figures aren't thoroughly inked, panel borders are unfinished, etc. Then the villain appears. His name is DEADLINE and he has the power to manipulate.
Mike


THAT'S JUST A SAMPLE OF MY PERVASIVE PAPER POWER!
WOOP!
Whooo-Ha!
STAND BACK, JG! THIS DUDE'S ABOUT TO GET TOASTED!
HOLD STILL, YOU HOODED HOODLUM-- THIS'LL ALL BE OVER IN A MILLI-SECOND,
ON THE CONTRARY, HEDGEHOG...
...I INTEND TO RUB YOU OUT ... WITH AN ERASER!
EEEYAAAGH!
>gasp!< YOU FIEND!
RUB-RUB-RUB-
ERASER
HAW, HAW, HAW! PERHAPS NOW YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY I'VE COME TO CONQUER YOUR LITTLE WORLD, MR. GABRIE!
YES, I WOULD--CONSIDERING THIS IS ONLY A FIVE PAGE STORY AND WE'RE ALREADY AT THE END OF PAGE 3!

FOR YEARS NOW, I'VE BEEN SENDING YOU IDEAS AND DRAWINGS FOR STORIES IN YOUR COMICS... SONIC, KNUCKLES, SUPER SPECIALS, MINI-SERIES, ONE-SHOTS, GUEST APPEARANCES, CROSS-OVERS, NEW HEROES AND VILLAINS... BUT DID YOU EVER RESPOND?
NO!!
WAS THAT YOU? THE CLOWN WHO'S ALWAYS MAILING ME SUB-MISSIONS WRITTEN IN CRAYON ON TORN CARDBOARD? YOU NEVER INCLUDE A RETURN ADDRESS! IT'S ARCHIE'S POLICY... IN FACT, ALL COMIC BOOK COMPANIES POLICY-- TO TRASH ANYTHING THAT COMES IN LIKE THAT... IT'S COMMON POLICY!
YOU DARE CALL MY CONCEPTS COMMON!?!? THE BRILLIANT PLOT WHERE MAMMOTH MOGUL JOINS THE FLEA CIRCUS?
MY TWELVE PART BACK-UP ADVENTURE WHEN KNUCKLES DISCOVERS HIS REAL FATHER IS ELVIS?!
THE SIX-ISSUE SERIES WHEREIN ROBOTNIK DANCES WHILE KNOTHOLE BURNS!?!?
THOSE ARE AWFUL IDEAS! I CAN'T THINK OF ONE SONIC CREATOR THAT I'VE DEALT WITH OVER THE YEARS WHO'D BE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON SUCH DRIVEL!
AHA! THAT'S THE CLUE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR TO DEFEAT YOU, DEADLINE ... CREATIVE INPUT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I STILL HAVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT MY ORIGIN AND THE DISCOVERY OF MY HORROR-GLASS!
SORRY, PAL--YOUR TIME IS UP! I'M EDITOR OF THIS FEATURE AND WHAT I SAY GOES!
=ulp!= N-NEVER! I WON'T RELINQUISH CONTROL!


I CALL UPON EVERY WRITER, PENCILER, INKER, LETTERER, COLORIST AND EDITOR WHO'S EVER WORKED ON THIS COMIC BOOK TO OVERWHELM YOU, DEADLINE! I HATE TO BE A NAME DROPPER, BUT...
KEN PENDERS
PATRICK SPAZIANTE
KARL BOLLERS
HARVEY MERCADOOCASIO
JIM VALENTINO
STEPHANIE VOZZO
SCOTT SHAW
PAM ECKLUND
MICHAEL GALLAGHER
FRANK GAGLIARDO
SCOTT FULOP
DAVE MANAK
JIM AMASH
VICKIE WILLIAMS
ANDREW PEPOY
PAUL CASTIGLIA
ART MAWHINNEY
BARRY GROSSMAN
ANGELO DECESARE
MARK BERNARDO
STEVEN BUTLER
JORGE PACHECO
FRY
JEFF POWELL
RON LIM
DARYL EDELMAN
DAWN BEST
J. AXER
NELSON RIBEIRO
BENNY LEE
FRANK STROM
MICHAEL HIGGINS
JOSH & AIMEE RAY
SALEEM CRAWFORD
VICTOR GORELICK
SUZANNE PADDOCK
JON D'AGOSTINO
DAN SLOTT
MIKE KANTEROVICH
BILL WHITE
KENT TAYLOR
J. OLIVERAS
BILL YOSHIDA
KYLE HUNTER
DANNY FINGEROTH
BOB WIACEK
RICH KOSLOWSKI
NELSON ORTEGA
BRIAN THOMAS
LISA IERACHI
NOOOOOO! I CAN'T WITHSTAND THE ONSLAUGHT OF TALENT!
DAN NAKROSIS
MINDY EISMAN
CHRIS ALLAN
MANNY GALAN
SAM MAXWELL


POP!
HA! THAT'S THE END OF DEADLINE!
I'D SAY WE CAN CREDIT THAT TO YOU, JG!

WELL, IT'S TIME TO GET BACK TO THE LETTERS PAGE, SONIC!
SPEAKING OF WHICH... *
J.G. EDITOR
* LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK, SONIC-GRAMMERS! WANT TO SEE ANOTHER OFF-BEAT OFF-PANEL STORY IN THE FUTURE? YOU KNOW THE DRILL-- WRITE-ON!
THE END